

The Observer

THINGS INTERESTING TO THE DEAF

VOL. V.

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1913

NO. 117

REPORT OF THE CONVENTION

BY A. L. ROBERTS.

The tenth triennial convention of the National Association of the Deaf met in Cleveland, Ohio, Wednesday, August 20, for an eight-day session.

The Mayor of Cleveland, the Hon. Newton D. Baker, cordially welcomed the delegates in a neat speech, and Mr. A. L. Pach, of New York, responded, delivering his address orally. Mr. Pach was roundly applauded for the points he made as to why the N. A. D. was assembled in session.

The local committee secured the Hollenden hotel as the headquarters and meeting place. The hostelry proved amply able to take care of the convention.

Probably five hundred deaf people were present at the convention. Of this number, the treasurer's books showed 400 as members of the association.

Thursday and Friday, Aug. 21-22, were largely taken up with reports from the heads of various departments of the association.

An interesting feature of the convention was the informal conferences of members, presided over by Mr. Jay C. Howard, of Duluth, the purpose being to thresh out the various plans presented for federation. The meetings were held at intervals when the convention proper was in recess or adjourned until the next day, and were open to all who cared to attend. After two or three of these conferences, it became evident that opinion was almost a unit on some plan providing for individual members and state and local branches composed of N. A. D. members only. This plan was later carried out, as will be seen.

Mr. Willis Hubbard, of Flint, Michigan, proposed that the members present start a subscription for the Endowment Fund, and that it be taken up at once, the subscriptions to be paid in within three years, or before the next meeting of the association. The proposal was received with enthusiasm and many present signified their willingness to contribute sums ranging all the way up to \$25. Mr. Hubbard was appointed to take this subscription, and was later instructed by the convention to act in conjunction with the regular Endowment Fund committee.

The members of the National Fraternal Society of the Deaf held a grand conclave at the American

House, the evening of August 21. A large class was initiated into the mysteries of the order, among them many of the leaders in the convention. The affair was one of the best and biggest features of what has proven a remarkable convention in many ways. Over one hundred members of the order were present, including most of the Grand Officers.

One feature of the session on Friday, August 22, was the action taken by the association to consider erecting a statue of the Abbe de l'Epee. A committee will be appointed to work out the project, how funds will be raised, place of erection, etc., to report at the next convention.

While the report of the committee on laws was being made at the afternoon session of August 22, it became evident that agreement could not be reached on the different amendments placed before the convention, within the limited time allowed. Five additional members were appointed to act in conjunction with the three members of the committee, and instructed to report to the convention as soon as possible. This committee met on the evening of August 23, and after four hours of discussion reached a unanimous agreement on all the questions before it. On Monday, August 25, the committee reported its recommendations as follows:

1. That a plan of federation composed of individual members and state and local branches be adopted, a committee being appointed to arrange and codify the present laws, together with the various amendments recommended, toward the above end. Carried.

2. That the amendment providing for the election of officers be made by mail, the secretary to send out nomination blanks in February preceding the convention; and then submitting the five highest candidates for each office to the members by mail, on a printed ballot. Carried by a large vote. This amendment is long and complicated, but full details will appear later in the press.

3. That three trustees be elected, one at each convention, to have charge of the endowment fund and bequests. Carried.

4. That amendments to the constitution and by-laws must be submitted to the proper officials 60 days previous to the convention. Carried.

5. That amendments to the constitution and by-laws may be made in

convention by unanimous vote. Carried.

One or two other unimportant amendments were adopted. That relating to increasing the initiation fee at conventions to \$2.00 failed of adoption.

The delegates were treated to an exhibition of motion pictures in the sign language the evening of August 22. Something like eight or ten films were shown, including those that have heretofore been exhibited over the country. The new speakers were Dr. John B. Hotchkiss, of Washington, D. C.; Dr. J. L. Smith, of Faribault; Dr. Geo. T. Dougherty, of Chicago; Prof. J. S. Long, of Council Bluffs; Dr. Edward Allen Fay, of Washington, D. C.; Prof. Robert P. MacGregor, of Columbus, and Rev. Geo. F. Flick, of Chicago. All the films were exceptionally fine. During the convention, several other films were made by the committee in charge of the motion picture fund.

One of the most beautiful and impressive occasions of the convention was the ceremony in Lakeview Cemetery, at the tomb of President James A. Garfield, and grave of the Rev. Austin W. Mann, on Sunday afternoon, August 24. President Olof Hanson made a few opening remarks and introduced Mr. Willis Hubbard, of Flint, Mich., who reviewed the work in behalf of the deaf performed by these two departed friends. Motion pictures of these addresses, and of the crowd were taken. A committee then placed wreaths upon the graves.

Monday afternoon, Aug. 25th, the delegates were invited to visit the estate of John D. Rockefeller, near Cleveland. The Forest Hill estate comprises some 400 acres, with 25 miles of macadamized roadway within the high iron fence surrounding it. Mr. Rockefeller himself greeted the members very cordially, and sat in a group picture taken by Pach, of New York. Mr. Rockefeller was made an honorary member of the association.

Tuesday afternoon the management of the Cleveland American League baseball team invited the delegates to attend a game at Somers Park between Cleveland and New York. A large majority of the delegates accepted.

Mrs. W. C. Rice, of Manila, P. I., sent a handsome gavel as a present to the N. A. D., which was placed in the custody of President Olof Hanson, and a silver engraved plate ordered placed upon it.

Continued on page 4

THE OBSERVER

W. S. ROOT

Editor

The Observer is issued every two weeks on Thursday. It is published in the interest of the deaf everywhere.

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TO EXCHANGES.

The address of The Observer is now 1320 Fifth avenue, Room 10, Seattle, Wash. We hope all of our exchanges will make this change of address without further notice. Newspapers not properly addressed do not always reach their destination.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

To avoid delay in your letters reaching us, notice our new address, which is Room 10, 1320 Fifth Ave., Seattle, Wash.

IN THEIR NEW LOCATION.

The firm of Root & Christenson is now located at Room 10, 1320 Fifth avenue. They have a much larger room and are on the ground floor and only about one block south and one block east of their former location, being just a few doors south of Union street.

ROBERTS THE MAN.

It is with a good deal of satisfaction that we mention the selection of A. L. Roberts of Kansas to be secretary of the N. A. D.

Mr. Roberts is one of our young and brainy men who is forging to the front.

We feel sure he is a man who will put self aside and work for the good of the deaf.

MICHIGAN LOSES ITS SUPERINTENDENT.

Prof. F. D. Clarke of the Michigan College died suddenly Sunday morning from heart trouble. He was a brother of Supt. Clarke of our State School at Vancouver, Wash.

Prof. Clarke had made all arrangements for opening school in the new buildings and his death comes as a sad disappointment all around.

CONVENTION NOTES.

The convention was harmonious. There was little ill feeling or bitterness.

The informal discussion of reorganization plans Wednesday and Thursday afternoon did much to crystallize the sentiment of the convention. This sentiment was strongly for a continuation of present plan of individual membership, strengthened by the formation of local branches in the center of deaf population.

The next regular convention will be in Hartford, Conn., in 1917, but a special meeting without election of officers or important business transactions may be held in San Francisco in 1915, if thought advisable by the Executive committee.

The proxy voting feature worked smoothly, and without a hitch or friction of any sort. There were twenty-seven proxy holders, and the number of proxies held by each ranged from one to thirty-five.

Dr. Fox, as usual, stood by the administration, and being in favor of justice for the cause of right.

One of the features of the convention was the rendition of the "Death of Hiawatha" by Mrs. Eickhoff, in Indian costume. This was so highly appreciated that a portion of it will be preserved in moving pictures.

Candidates nominated for President were J. C. Howard of Minnesota, A. L. Pach of New York, and G. W. Veditz of Colorado. Their respective votes were: Howard, 232; Pach, 35; Veditz, 114. There was no contest for Secretary or Treasurer.

There was a fire in the Hollenden hotel Tuesday afternoon, but few knew it, most being away at the ball game. Fire apparatus assembled in the street, and firemen invaded the hotel. It was a small blaze in one of the servants' rooms, and was put out with chemicals before any material damage was done.

Chairman Ayres of the local committee proved himself most efficient and capable in handling the convention. The other members of the local committee also did their parts well, and the arrangements for the convention were all that could be desired.

Cleveland had been hot and dry for two months, but a good rain came Thursday and the weather during the rest of the convention was cool and comfortable.

The Frats held a very successful meeting Monday evening, nearly one hundred Frats being present. Among those to ride the goat were Veditz, Hanson, and Howard. The animal had been fed till he was in a very frisky mood, but all proved efficient riders, especially Howard.

Mr. Spear came down to expound the Minnesota labor law, but only stayed two days, Monday and Tuesday, being obliged for business reasons to return home Tuesday evening.

THE MEAGHER PARAGRAPH.

The following is a copy of the paper referring to Mr. Meagher, which was presented to the National convention and approved by that body:

To the Officers and Members of the National Association of the Deaf. My Friends:

I desire to have the following placed upon the records and printed in the next report:

"On page 80 of the Report of the last National Convention of the Deaf there appears the following:

"While the tellers were counting the votes considerable excitement prevailed when Mr. Cloud asked for the privilege of the floor and called attention to the deliberate fraud committed by J. F. Meagher, who had cast two ballots for his candidate, Mr. Hanson. Half a dozen others quickly followed Mr. Cloud, loudly claiming that they had been eye-witnesses to the fraud and demanded an honest ballot and a fair count. The President called the alleged culprit to the platform, and there confronted by the overwhelming evidence, he hung his head shamefacedly and pleaded guilty. The President severely arraigned him and then told him 'to go and sin no more.'"

An investigation shows that the above is exaggerated and largely untrue—that there was no "deliberate fraud"—but merely an extra vote cast in sport with no attempt at concealment. I feel that the language of the article does Mr. Meagher gross injustice and that fairness to him as well as the good name of the N. A. D. demands this correction.

W. S. ROOT,

Seattle, Wash.

Approved by the Seattle N. A. D. Boosters.

P. L. AXLING,

A. W. WRIGHT, President.
Secretary.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:

In support of my request, I wish to say a few words. No one who knows Mr. Meagher and was present at Colorado Springs, will deny that the article as it appears in the report is exaggerated and largely untrue. The report is the permanent record of the association, and is in the home of nearly all the prominent deaf of the country, as well as in many public libraries.

If opinion of Mr. Meagher is to be formed from that paragraph, what will that opinion be? We who know him, know that it does him a rank injustice.

The object of the N. A. D. is to encourage and aid the deaf not to disname of the N. A. D. demands that courage and slander them. The good justice be done Mr. Meagher.

W. S. ROOT.

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LOCALS.

Henry Ott of Portland is in town looking for work.

William Sneve of Silvana is spending a few days in town.

Louis Bartl of Mt. Vernon was in town last week. He is now in Yakima picking hops and apples.

L. O. Christianson is entertaining his sister and her daughter from California at his home.

Ross Sleightam is somewhere around here and bobs up at The Observer office once in a while.

L. A. Divine of Vancouver was in town Tuesday and on Wednesday accompanied the pupils back to school.

Olof Hanson returned from the East, Thursday night last, evidently well satisfied with the convention and his trip.

Last Sunday, Rev. Fedder spoke on the subject of "Temptation," and gave an interesting discourse.

True Partridge is off on his vacation this week. True can be depended upon to bring home some whoppers.

Mr. and Mrs. Otha Minnick spent Saturday and Sunday in Tacoma visiting relatives and calling on the deaf of that burg.

Carl Garrison and John Skoglund were in town last week. Those two boys know how to earn money, anyway. We think it safe to say that after they finish college they will speedily be gobbled up.

Miss Myrtle Hammonds' mother has bought a house on Summit avenue and they will soon remove to that place. Myrtle is feeling real good over the change and also over the beautiful locket that her sisters brought her from California.

We understand that Mr. and Mrs. Meagher, assisted by two young deaf men, recently made a great dramatic hit. This probably accounts for Jimmy's making his will, of which we will have more to say hereafter.

Mr. and Mrs. Koberstein beguiled Mrs. Hanson's loneliness while Mr. Hanson was away by inviting her and her three girls to dinner on Sunday, August 31. The Kobersteins are snugly settled in a nice little home in Ballard, and Mrs. Hanson greatly enjoyed the visit with them.

A HANDSOME GAVEL.

The gavel donated to the N. A. D. at Cleveland and later given to Olof Hanson, is a fine piece of workmanship. The silver mounting bears the following inscription: "Donated by Mrs. Charles Merrick Rice to the National Association of the Deaf. Presented to Olof Hanson, President, Cleveland, O., 1913." The gavel is of tinald wood from the forests of the Philippines and was made by a 15-year-old boy in the trade school, Zamboanga.

CLEMENT B. COFFIN

Jeweler and Optician

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COME AND HEAR ABOUT IT.

P. S. A. D. meeting this week, Saturday night, at the usual time.

Olof Hanson is expected to give a report of the National Convention meeting held in Cleveland.

SCHOOL OPENS.

The State School at Vancouver opened yesterday for the year. A goodly number of pupils left Seattle on the 8 a. m. train.

TO RECEIVE THE GLAD HAND.

John Skoglund has received a letter from his congressman, who intends to meet him when he reaches Washington, D. C. John should be congratulated on having such influential introduction to the Capital city.

MEETING OF CO-EDS.

The other evening Miss Hanson had a small dinner party in honor of Miss Elsie Peterson. Those present besides that young lady and the hostess, were Miss Alice Hammond of Tacoma, Miss Mabel Scanlan of Everett and Miss Cleon Morris of Seattle.

That the evening might be more lively, a number of young men were invited in and cards indulged in. Miss Alice Hammond won the prize.

TO SEE THE WORLD.

E. H. Whitehead of Vancouver, B. C., left Seattle this week bound for Japan, from whence he expects to make a tour of the world, visiting his old home in England and reaching Vancouver in February. Mr. Whitehead is to act as correspondent and agent of The Observer during his trip. We look for some interesting letters.

ANOTHER SURPRISE.

On the return of August Koberstein from Alaska, Mrs. Koberstein arranged with the local deaf to give him a surprise on the evening of August 30. A goodly number responded and the surprise was complete. A very pleasant evening was spent and refreshments served. On the way to the car a run was made on a sand bank with disastrous results.

OUR FRIEND GEORGIE IN HARMONY AGAIN.

We are glad to see our friend Veditz putting his shoulders to the traces again. He is able and resourceful and should be able to accomplish much as one of the Endowment trustees. Those on the inside know that the success of the Moving Picture Fund was largely due to Mr. Veditz's intelligence and planning.

PUGET SOUND ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF

Meeting at Carpenter Hall, Fourth Avenue just north of Pine Street.

Officers:

President—True Partridge.

Vice-President—Miss Cleon Morris.

Secretary, Philip L. Axling.

Treasurer, John E. Gustin.

Serg.-at-Arms, A. H. Koberstein.

Bible Class for the deaf meets on the second and fourth Sunday of each month at 3:30 p. m. in Trinity Parish Church, corner Eighth Ave. & James St. All welcome.

Olof Hanson, Lay-reader, in charge

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SOLD OUT.

We regret to hear that Frank E. Philpot has been obliged to sell out the Clendin News in West Virginia. Death in the family and ill health of other members necessitated a change of residence.

REPORT OF THE CONVENTION

Continued from page 1
BY A. L. ROBERTS.

About 160 people sat down to the banquet at the Hotel Hollenden, the evening of Aug. 26. Chairman Ayers, of the local committee, was toastmaster. The speakers at this affair were Dr. Cooley, of Cleveland; Dr. Fox, of New York; Mr. MacGregor, of Ohio; Mr. Gibson, of Chicago; President Hanson; Mr. Tracy, of Louisiana; Mr. Howard, of Minnesota; Mrs. Bates, of Cleveland, and Mrs. Buhner, also of Cleveland.

The final report of Treasurer Freeman showed 673 paid-up members of the Association, 374 of whom were in attendance at the convention. The expenses of the Association, not including the Motion Picture fund, for the past three years, was \$820; the receipts \$1,060. With the fees collected at this convention, the treasury now has \$575, with \$231 in the Endowment Fund.

Wednesday morning, Aug. 27, the convention proceeded to elect officers. Some of the members had departed before the election began, but those present, together with the proxies held by delegates, made the total vote 381. The results of the election were:

President — Jay Cooke Howard, Minnesota.

First Vice-President—A. B. Greener, Ohio.

Second Vice-President—Mrs. Anna Lashbrook, N. Y.

Third Vice-President—Walter Glover, South Carolina.

Fourth Vice-President—W. L. Waters, California.

Secretary—A. L. Roberts, Kansas.

Treasurer—H. D. Drake, District of Columbia.

Trustees Endowment Fund.

Geo. W. Veditz, Colo., three years.

Olof Hanson, Wash., six years.

Willis Hubbard, Mich., nine years.

The convention decided that the next regular meeting will be held in Hartford, Conn., in 1917, and a special meeting in San Francisco in 1915, but that no election of officers is to take place until the Hartford convention.

A purse of \$100 was given President Hanson on his retirement from office, the presentation speech being made by the small daughter of Rev. Mr. Allabough of Cleveland.

The convention adjourned sine die at 1:30 p. m., Aug. 27.

THEY WERE DEAF.

SACRAMENTO, Sept. 2.—“Stop,” yelled Motorcycle Policeman Brown to a man and a girl on a speeding machine. And then he followed them 18 miles with his revolver out. When caught Brown found them to be deaf mutes who thought him an up-to-date highwayman.—Ex.

TACOMA.

That was a delightful and ever to be remembered ten days we spent in Burton. Knowing the editor's fondness for condensed goods we reduced the chronicle of those event to chapters which each reader may dilute with his own imagination and a pinch of salt. We advise plenty of salt for facts are always stronger than fiction and harder to swallow.

Chapter 1. Charles H. inadvertently attends church, to the astonishment of all and the preacher most of all.

2. Alice's “sole” attraction.

3. “Ginger” camp receives a visit from “Camp Giggles” girls.

4. Two new arrivals at Camp Giggles.

5. A visit to a renowned point on the harbor and a picnic. Good time in spite of rough weather. Some artistic (?) sketching.

6. Alice's “sole” attraction becomes stuck on Ethel's hair.

7. An exploring expedition in which we astonish the natives (of Portage) and scrape up acquaintance with Mrs. Hanson's friends.

8. Another exploring expedition (of Burton) wherein we are astonished by the natives.

9. Alice arrives on the scene and discovers that we have allowed dust to settle inches thick on our household goods while stirring it up elsewhere.

Mrs. L. and the children arrive. “Tales out of school” until Alice's hair stands on end and she is afraid to retire (that's why she won't tire in the first place).

10. Expected company doesn't arrive, unexpected does. Disgraceful grace over a gracious dish of clam chowder. One more dip, and one more ride. A promise to Ethel of a gathering together of the delinquents next Sat.

The last chapter is the nucleus of a sequel. It also discloses the fact that the little overworked phrase “I should worry,” whom many have thought in need of a rest and vacation, had indeed accompanied our party to Burton even while we had most sanguinely believed it left far behind. It had lain low, and recuperated, until it felt so refreshed it stretched itself, brushed up its Sunday clothes and presented itself to our attention with the broad expanse of “I should manifest exceedingly great concern.” That was not, however, until we had returned to Tacoma and prepared to make good our promise of a farewell to Miss Eaton. Circumstances over which we had no control made it impossible to communicate with Miss E— until Saturday, as we knew beforehand, but what we didn't know was that even then we would be unable to locate her. So we had

New Advertisement

ATTENTION

Our new Fall Styles for men and Young Men are on dress parade.

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the laughable (and we did laugh, too) experience of having a picnic supper in honor of a guest who wasn't there. However, it was a very pleasant affair, there being everything provided at the Point to facilitate outdoor affairs. And as we ate our sandwiches and baked beans and drank our hot coffee seated near the rousing hot camp fire, the sense of humor which every one of the party possessed helped to save the day. Indeed, so pleasant was the event that we intend repeating the performance next Saturday (if the weather is pleasant), minus a guest of honor, and a few stunts on the side.

Mrs. Charles Hammond has returned from Nebraska. Mr. and Mrs. Earl Weaver accompanied her home and after a few days' stay went on to their home in Ellensburg. Mr. and Mrs. Weaver are the proud parents of a dear little girl, Helen May, now three months old.

John Skoglund has been in town for the last few days, taking in the sights with his friend, Classen. The two expect to leave soon for Gallaudet.

John Rowan and Miss Slegel spent the day at Gig Harbor, the guests of Mrs. Fosdick, Sunday. After a drive of two miles to the farm they were entertained in true country style. We all know what that means—fried chicken and all the extras.